GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:978
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
SETTING UP OF INDIAN FACILITATION CENTRE FOR NRIS
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Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up an Indian Facilitation Centre for the Non-Resident Indians (NRIs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c) Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has established an Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) as a not-for-profit Trust in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The objectives of the Centre are:

Promote Overseas Indian investments into India and facilitate Business to Business partnerships.

Function as clearinghouse for all investment related information.

Establish and maintain a Diaspora Knowledge Network (DKN).

Assist States in India to project investment opportunities to overseas Indians in the infrastructure and social sectors.

Provide advisory services to Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Non Resident Indians (NRIs) on matters such as Consular questions, stay in India, investment and financial issues etc.

The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre functions as a 'one stop shop' for serving the interests of the Overseas Indian community. The Centre is functional and successfully organized a Market Place during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2008 in January 2008, in which many one - to -one Business meetings were organized on Investment and Infrastructure related Sectors.